



This handout is a guide to share information regarding deadlines, events and software version release dates. The intended audience is PCHA and FPA-PM application users. New FPA updates, changes and work arounds to PCHA and FPA-PM are listed below. Web site links relative to the software updates are also included.

FPA Progress Reports: Thanks to everyone for getting the March 1 progress reports in. It is gratifying to see the amount of work being done in the field! Please submit an updated progress report on March 14, 2005. After this, please submit a progress report every 2 weeks (ie. next one due 3/28, then 4/11, etc.), along with any feedback you would like to include. The progress report highlights issues and concerns that aren't showing up thru any other reporting system and it shows if the FPUs are on track for the upcoming due dates. The [Progress Report](#) form is now available on the FPA information web site under implementation.

New Release Dates and Content for PCHA and FPA-PM

- **PCHA Version 1.2.25** is available for download. This version improves the Data Validation and error handling routines, and also fixes a problem importing DOI 1202 files when there are more than one BIA/NPS/FWS units in the same database.

Remember: FPA-PM users need to ensure they are using the compatible version of PCHA and PM releases. The newest PCHA version can be found on the web in the following locations:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/nfmas-beta/> or visit the FPA website, choose [FPA Implementation Team and Guidance](#) and then under **Field Tools and Examples** choose **Current link to [PCHA 99](#)**

- **Latest Release notes:** <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/nfmas-beta/FPA-HA.htm>

FPA-PM Version 1.2

Please **Do Not** work in the FPA-PM system Monday March 14, 2005, as a system upgrade is being loaded. **Any work done on Monday, March 14, will be lost!**

FPA-PM Version 1.2 will be available March 15, 2005

- **On Tuesday, March 15, FPUs are encouraged to use V1.2.** Please test the system and provide feedback to Sue Weber at saweber@fs.fed.us.
 - Working in version 1.2 is not mandatory, but your efforts will help us continue to refine and improve the system. Also, your workload should be minimized since there are some substantial enhancements from version 1.1 to version 1.2.
 - Version 1.2 enhancements include fire leadership and support calculations and some aviation improvements.

- Jumping directly from version 1.1 to version 1.3 will be possible, but delaying the workload to meet the July deadline using 1.3 will require much more preparation to succeed. Version 1.3 is scheduled for release June 1, 2005.

FPA-PM Version 1.2 Tips

- **When moving to V1.2** you will have to associate a new lookup data set. During this process the system will generate a multi-page list of items to be re-associated with the new lookup data. This list may be copied and placed in a document for printing. Information included covers FMUs, Dispatch Locations, Staffing areas and others. This information will be helpful in reviewing some of the existing inputs in your 1.1 planning data set.
- **Recommended Number of Optimization Intervals** – When it comes time to “Manage the Budget” in V1.2, five intervals are recommended. Using more intervals increases your work. To determine if the optimization curve is too steep or too flat up to 20 intervals may be used.
- **Helpful Reports** that may assist the FPU team in completing the Manage Budget tab.
 - Resource Summary Report
 - Leadership and Support Report - provides information about expected funding, FTE and resource counts that are useful in determining how best to divide the available leadership budget from the analysis
 - Cost Summary Report
 - Fire Event Summary Report
- **On March 15, 2005, look on the FPA information web page** for a “Budget Management tab” check list. Visit: <http://fpa.nifc.gov/Implementation.htm> , and scroll down to technical information.